

ATTENTION: Docket #98N-1038, irradiation in the Production,
Processing and Handling of Food, July 19, 1999

Comments on accurate irradiated food labeling. The FDA needs to require irradiated food labeling that: 1) Clearly displayed labels for easy view; 2) Use easy-to-understand wording on label; 3) Use terms like "irradiation" or "irradiated"; 4) Use the radura symbol; and 5) Permanently require labeling on all irradiated foods.

I oppose the following alternative words on irradiated food labels as they're misleading and should not be used: Cold Pasteurization & Electronic Pasteurization. A weak irradiation label on such foods is also misleading because irradiation destroys vitamins and nutrients in foods. Radiolytic toxins occur in irradiated foods-formaldehyde, benzene and others-that are harmful to human health. There's been inadequate safety testing of biological effects of irradiation on food by radiolytic products & free radical toxins. Irradiation causes other changes in spoilage qualities that are not obvious or expected.

Sincerely,

Peter W. Gonzalez

PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW WHAT THEY'RE BUYING. Why are irradiated food producers concerned about labelling their food? Because people don't want it and the stand to lose money. It's BAD SCIENCE. And we should have a choice.

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ATTENTION:

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